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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	China	REPORT	25X1
SUBJECT	Discontent in Communist China	DATE DISTR.	19 November 1954
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This is UNEVALUATED

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE) 25X1

1. During early 1954, it was rumored in Harbin that two Russian residents of Harbin, who had been hired by the Chinese Communist government and sent to Canton to teach Russian, had been murdered by unidentified Chinese civilians in the Canton area about late 1953. It was also rumored in Harbin that these men had been murdered because the Chinese in the Canton area resented the presence and activities of Soviet Russians and believed these men to be Soviet advisers who had recently arrived from the USSR. The ashes of the cremated body of one of these two Russians, it also was rumored, had been returned to the parents of one of the victims in Harbin.

2. During one day in February 1954, the Song Ho Shin Flour Mill on Market Street, Madigou District, Harbin, a sugar mill, and a pencil factory, all in different sections of Harbin, were destroyed by fires which started at almost exactly the same time. An undetermined large number of Chinese and Russian emigrant employees of the flour and cotton mills and the pencil factory, including BUZANOV (fnu), a flour mill expert and approximately 20 other Russian emigrant employees of the flour mill, were arrested by the Harbin municipal police and charged with arson.

3. It was rumored in Harbin in early March 1954 that approximately ten of the Russians and Chinese arrested because of the Song Ho Shin Mill fire were executed in Harbin shortly after their arrest, and that the others were given long prison terms in Harbin, along with those arrested because of the sugar

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mill and pencil factory fires. It was also rumored in Harbin that Chinese residents of that city had started the fires in protest against the shipment of large quantities of food to the USSR from Harbin.

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Comment.

the name of one of the two Russian residents of Harbin murdered in Canton by Chinese in early 1954 was Victor Panamaroff. He was about 22 years of age. The ashes of his cremated body were sent to his mother in Harbin shortly after his death.

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